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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A.

Washington, D. C.

SS152

July 20, 1955

Crop Prospects Second-Largest

Total crop production in 1955 now promises to be the second highest of record. The production index for all crops based on July 1 prospects is 104 percent of the 1947-49 base period, second only to the record 106 percent in 1948. The tentative yield index at 114 percent of the 1947-49 average is well above the previous high mark of 108 in 1948 which was closely approached in 1954. It should be noted that at this early stage some yield estimates are not yet available, and pasture production is not included in the overall index.

July Wheat Forecast Up

Production of all wheat is expected to total 860 million bushels, 15 million bushels above the June 1 forecast. The prospective crop is 11 percent smaller than the 1954 crop and about 25 percent smaller than the 1944-53 average production. The crop includes 663 million bushels of winter wheat, 16 percent less than last year, and a spring wheat crop of 197 million bushels, 10 percent larger. The indicated 47.4 million acres for harvest is the smallest since 1934.

Corn Crop Second-Largest

A large corn crop--3,450 million bushels--is forecast for 1955. A crop this size would be the second largest of record, exceeded only by the 3,605 million bushel crop in 1948. The current forecast is 16 percent above last year and 12 percent above the 1944-53 average. A record yield per harvested acre of 42.7 bushels is indicated, compared with 37.1 in 1954 and the average of 36.4 bushels. The growing crop is in good to excellent condition in all States.

Second-Largest Oat Crop

The 1955 production of oats, the Nation's second leading feed crop, is forecast at 1,513.5 million bushels. This would be 1 percent above last year's large crop, 14 percent above the 1944-53 average, and the second largest of record.

Record High Hay Crop Forecast

The 1955 production of all hay is forecast at a record high of 109 million tons. This exceeds last year's crop by 5 percent and the 10-year average by 7 percent. Most of the increased tonnage is in alfalfa in the North Central States, and in lespedeza in the South Central and South Atlantic States.

Augmented by increased amounts of silage, sorghum, and other forage, this hay tonnage seems likely to provide well for winter and emergency needs of the present large livestock numbers.

The July 1 pasture condition of 83 is well above the past 3 years. Range feed also has shown great improvement.

Second-Largest Barley Crop

A barley crop of 384.4 million bushels, the second largest of record, is indicated on the basis of July 1 prospects. This is 4 percent more than last year and 44 percent above the 1944-53 average. An increase in acreage for harvest, compared with last year, together with above-average yield prospects, account for the increase in production.

Rye Crop Larger

Rye production is indicated at 27.2 million bushels, about 15 percent more than in 1954 and 29 percent above the 1944-53 average. The current production shows an increase of 1.5 million bushels over the June 1 forecast.

Record Large Soybean Acreage

Nearly 20 million acres of soybeans planted alone for all purposes are indicated for 1955. This record acreage exceeds last year, the previous high, by 6 percent and is only slightly less than the March 1 intentions. About 18.4 million acres are expected to be harvested for beans this year if growers carry out their intentions as of July 1. This would be about 8 percent above the record 17.0 million acres harvested last year.

Cotton Acreage Below 1954

Cotton in cultivation on July 1 is estimated at 17.1 million acres, 14 percent less than a year earlier and about 6 percent below the 1955 allotment of 18.2 million acres. In 1954, abandonment of acreage in cultivation July 1 from natural causes was 1.2 percent with an additional 1.5 percent removed for compliance purposes. Natural abandonment for 1945-54 averaged 2.7 percent. In 1955, allotments are 15 percent below last year. Acreage is about 92 percent of allotments in the Southeast, around 97 percent in the Central Belt, and about 98 percent in the far West. In Texas, this year's acreage is 92 percent of allotments. The crop is from 1 to 2 weeks late.

Flaxseed Crop Up 4% from 1954

Flaxseed production is forecast at 43.4 million bushels, 4 percent more than the 1954 harvest, and a fifth larger than the 10-year average. The larger production this year is due to higher yield per acre as acreage is smaller than in 1954.

Peanut Acreage Increased

Following the increase in acreage quotas of 7½ percent announced on May 4, peanut growers made a determined effort to plant the additional acreage allotted for picking and threshing. As a result the 1955 acreage of 2,034,000 planted alone for all purposes is 6.3 percent more than indicated in March, 5.1 percent above 1954, but well below the 1944-53 average of 3,134,000 acres.

Record Large Sorghum Acreage

The acreage of all sorghums planted and to be planted in 1955 for grain, forage, silage and sirup is estimated at 22,815,000 acres. This is the largest sorghum acreage of record--about 15 percent larger than last year and 8 percent larger than the previous record high in 1940.

Tobacco Crop Down

A total tobacco crop of 2,173 million pounds is forecast as of July 1--3 percent below 1954 production but the fifth largest of record. Flue-cured, Maryland, and cigar tobaccos are expected to show increases over last year; other classes will be down.

Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	Jan. -May 1954	Jan. -May 1955
Dairy Production			
Milk	Bil. lb.	165,8	165.5
Evaporated whole milk	Mil. lb.	1,075	1,152
Dry nonfat milk solids (for human food)	Mil. lb.	655	598
Butter, creamery	Mil. lb.	685	613
Cheese, American	Mil. lb.	468	434
Ice cream	Mil. gal.	221	232
Poultry Production			
Eggs	Billions	135,3	136,5
Poultry Meat ⁴	Mil. lb.	1,310	1,252
Canned poultry	Mil. lb.	89,9	96,4
Liquid egg	Mil. lb.	328,4	302,7
Dried egg (egg solids)	Mil. lb.	13,1	12,0
Frozen egg	Mil. lb.	259,6	236,8
Chicks hatched ²	Millions	1,163	1,013
Chicks placed ³	Millions	329	334
Poults hatched: ²			
Heavy breeds	Thousands	41,3	38,7
Light breeds	Thousands	10,9	7,6
Meat Production⁴ (dressed weight)			
Beef	Mil. lb.	5,060	5,170
Veal	Mil. lb.	557	560
Pork	Mil. lb.	3,512	4,095
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	298	320
Total red meat	Mil. lb.	9,427	10,145
Slaughter⁴			
Cattle	1,000 head	9,783	10,059
Calves	1,000 head	4,893	4,926
Hogs	1,000 head	25,339	30,062
Sheep and lambs	1,000 head	6,287	6,668

¹January-June.

²By commercial hatcheries.

³13 principal producing areas.

⁴Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

More Beans; Less Peas

Dry bean production is expected to be the largest since 1949. The July 1 forecast of 19.2 million bags is about 2 percent more than last year and 11 percent above the 1944-53 average.

The 1955 crop of dry peas is expected to total only 2.5 million bags--27 percent less than last year and 47 percent less than average.

More Grapes; Less Apples and Peaches

	Compared with--	
	1954	1944-53 av.
Apples--105.6 million bushels	-4%	-1%
Peaches--48.5 million bushels	-21%	-30%
Peas--30.6 million bushels	+1%	-1%
Grapes--3.2 million tons	+24%	+9%

Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1954		1955		
	June	Year	Apr.	May	June
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) ¹	Mil. 54.5	Mil. 54.7	Mil. 55.5	Mil. 55.7	Mil. 56.3
Farm employment	9.6	8.5	8.1	8.9	9.3
Family	7.0	6.5	6.5	6.9	6.8
Hired	2.6	1.9	1.5	2.0	2.5
Index numbers (1947-49 = 100)					
Industrial production ²	124	125	136	138	139
Total personal income payments ³	142	142	148	149	
Weekly factory earnings ⁴	136	138	147	150	151
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker ⁴	135	135	142	144	144
Wholesale prices, all commodities ⁴	110	110	110	110	110
Farm commodities	95	96	94	91	92
Food, processed	105	105	102	102	104
Consumer price index ⁴	115	115	114	114	
Food	114	113	111	111	
Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)					
Farm wage rates	⁵ 505		516		⁵ 510
Prices received by farmers	247	249	247	244	243
Crops	243	243	252	255	244
Food grains	216	232	236	240	232
Feed grains and hay	205	206	197	200	196
Cotton	274	274	270	266	266
Tobacco	445	439	437	436	435
Oil-bearing crops	283	279	261	259	256
Fruits	236	220	216	209	239
Vegetables for fresh market	197	221	270	308	230
Livestock & products	249	255	242	234	242
Meat animals	296	292	269	260	276
Dairy products	229	252	241	236	235
Poultry and eggs	169	176	185	175	176
Prices paid by farmers:					
All commodities	265	264	265	263	263
Used in living	276	274	274	274	273
Used in production	252	252	254	251	250
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates	282	281	284	282	282
Parity ratio (prices received to prices paid by farmers)	88	89	87	87	86

¹Bureau of the Census.

²Federal Reserve Board.

³Department of Commerce.

⁴Bureau of Labor Statistics.

⁵July 1.

Total Crop Acreage is Smaller

Total crop acreage planted or growing this season reaches 353 million, about 1 million acres less than the 1954 total. Planted acreages of wheat and rice were about 5 million acres below last year and cotton in cultivation July 1 was down 2.7 million acres. Shifts to feed grains and forage crops appear to have taken up much of this difference plus some of the land on which winter wheat had failed.

Spring Pig Crop 9% Larger than Year Ago

The 1955 spring pig crop totaled 60,453,000 head, an increase of 9 percent from the spring of 1954. Sows farrowing this spring totaled 8,758,000--also 9 percent larger than last spring. The number of pigs saved per litter was 6.9, the same as the record high number attained in 1954.

For the coming fall crop, reports on breeding intentions indicate a total of 6,043,000 sows to farrow, 11 percent above the number farrowing last fall. If the intentions for fall farrowings materialize and the number of pigs saved per litter equals the 10-year average with an allowance for upward trend, the 1955 fall pig crop would be 40.5 million head. A crop of this size would be 10 percent larger than last fall. The combined 1955 spring and fall pig crop would then be about 101 million head, or 9 percent above last year and 14 percent above the 1944-53 average.

Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average prices received by farmers		Effective parity prices
	May 15, 1955	June 15, 1955	June 15, 1955
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.) . ct.	31.51	31.43	35.34
Wheat (bu.) dol.	2.13	2.06	2.52
Rice (100 lb.) dol.	4.45	4.35	5.44
Corn (bu.) dol.	1.40	1.40	1.83
Peanuts (lb.) ct.	12.5	12.5	13.7
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Butterfat in cream (lb.)... ct.	56.7	56.5	73.6
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.) . dol.	3.62	13.61	4.68
Wool (lb.) ct.	46.9	44.7	59.2
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.) dol.	1.07	.995	1.34
Cottonseed (ton) dol.	53.10	52.00	71.10
Flaxseed (bu.) dol.	2.96	2.99	4.46
Oats (bu.) dol.	.715	.698	.860
Potatoes (bu.) dol.	2.23	1.21	1.46
Rye (bu.) dol.	1.06	1.03	1.68
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.).. dol.	2.39	2.24	2.53
Soybeans (bu.) dol.	2.36	2.32	2.90
Sweetpotatoes (bu.) dol.	3.15	3.82	2.77
Beef cattle (100 lb.) dol.	16.30	16.50	21.30
All chickens (lb.) ct.	25.1	25.1	29.0
Eggs (dozen) ct.	33.8	33.8	46.2
Hogs (100 lb.) dol.	16.40	18.40	21.30
Lambs (100 lb.) dol.	18.20	20.10	23.30
Calves (100 lb.) dol.	17.20	17.50	23.30
Oranges, on tree (box) dol.	1.75	2.02	2.90
Apples, for fresh use (bu.) dol.	3.06	3.36	2.82
Hay, baled (ton) dol.	22.20	21.10	23.80

¹Preliminary.

CURRENT ESTIMATES

Cash Receipts From Farm Marketings, by States, May 1955^{1,2}

State	Livestock and products	Crops	Total
	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
Maine	8,948	1,242	10,190
New Hampshire	4,548	611	5,159
Vermont	8,495	1,289	9,784
Massachusetts	10,522	4,166	14,688
Rhode Island	1,404	433	1,837
Connecticut	8,888	4,702	13,590
New York	52,816	10,886	63,702
New Jersey	17,530	11,120	28,650
Pennsylvania	49,141	11,115	60,256
North Atlantic	162,292	45,564	207,856
Ohio	55,593	20,386	75,979
Indiana	55,151	13,035	68,186
Illinois	90,432	29,458	119,890
Michigan	33,376	10,681	44,057
Wisconsin	80,624	5,505	86,129
East North Central	315,176	79,065	394,241
Minnesota	75,801	18,964	94,765
Iowa	141,757	22,505	164,262
Missouri	59,157	4,312	63,469
North Dakota	9,876	14,762	24,638
South Dakota	25,883	7,346	33,229
Nebraska	53,142	10,463	63,605
Kansas	37,516	8,494	46,010
West North Central	403,132	86,846	489,978
Delaware	7,396	1,139	8,535
Maryland	14,746	8,768	23,514
Virginia	21,742	12,933	34,675
West Virginia	7,469	1,136	8,605
North Carolina	19,746	7,370	27,116
South Carolina	7,550	6,296	13,846
Georgia	27,023	5,854	32,877
Florida	11,443	60,612	72,055
South Atlantic	117,115	104,108	221,223
Kentucky	22,122	3,525	25,647
Tennessee	21,517	6,660	28,177
Alabama	16,988	5,010	21,998
Mississippi	15,745	4,962	20,707
Arkansas	17,882	2,976	20,858
Louisiana	9,718	3,432	13,150
Oklahoma	22,465	3,232	25,697
Texas	70,289	30,933	101,222
South Central	196,726	60,730	257,456
Montana	6,666	6,446	13,112
Idaho	12,445	1,903	14,348
Wyoming	7,407	299	7,706
Colorado	24,118	2,756	26,874
New Mexico	8,638	2,453	11,091
Arizona	11,064	5,541	16,605
Utah	9,635	766	10,401
Nevada	2,542	43	2,585
Washington	16,475	7,707	24,182
Oregon	13,036	4,292	17,328
California	84,435	102,386	186,821
Western	196,461	134,592	331,053
United States	1,390,902	510,905	1,901,807

¹All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month.

²For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

CURRENT ESTIMATES--Continued

Cash Receipts From Farming, United States¹

Source	May 1955	June 1955 ²
	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.
Farm marketings and CCC loans ^{1 3} ...	1,902	2,000
Livestock and products	1,391	1,300
Meat animals	673	
Dairy products	396	
Poultry and eggs	283	
Other	39	
Crops	511	700
Food grains	22	
Feed crops	116	
Cotton (lint and seed)	17	
Oil-bearing crops	30	
Tobacco	9	
Vegetables	147	
Fruits and tree nuts	77	
Other	93	
Government payments	17	
Total cash receipts	1,919	

¹For comparison of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. ²Preliminary.

³Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Marketing Margin and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's
Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost ¹	Farm value ²	Marketing margin	Farmer's share
1954 average	\$985	\$427	\$558	43%
1954-May	989	439	550	44
1955-April ³	981	413	568	42
May	975	403	572	41

¹Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per urban wage-earner and clerical-worker family in 1952, calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

²Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

For comparisons with earlier months and years see The Marketing and Transportation Situation. ³Revised.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
Washington 25, D. C.

Farm production: Index numbers of total farm output, gross production of livestock and crops, and related indexes, United States¹

(1947-49 = 100)

Item	1952-54	1954	Indicated 1955 ²
Farm output ³	108	108	111
All livestock and products	115	119	120
All crops	102	100	104
Feed used by farm horses and mules ⁴	57	51	46
Cropland used	100	99	99
Crop production per acre ⁵	102	101	105
Animal units of breeding livestock ⁶	105	108	109
Livestock production per breeding unit ⁶	110	110	110

Prepared jointly by Agricultural Research Service and Agricultural Marketing Service.

¹For historical data and explanation of indexes, see "Changes in Farm Production and Efficiency," PERB 3, ARS.

²Indications for 1955 based on July 1955 "Crop Production" report and other releases of the Agricultural Estimates Division, AMS.

³Farm output measures the annual volume of farm production available for eventual human use.

⁴Hay and concentrates only. Not included in farm output.

⁵Index of crop production per acre is a ratio of total crop production to total land used for crops. It differs from the AMS index of yields per harvested acre of 28 crops.

⁶Animal units and production exclude horses and mules.

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